Library

L O T H I N G L A N D R U R A L D I S T R I C T

C O U N C I L

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1961

COUNCIL OFFICES,
RECTORY ROAD,
LOWESTOFT,
SUFFOLK.

LOTHINGLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1961

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	A. C. GEE, M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P.,D.P.H.
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR PUBLIC CLEANSING OFFICER and PETROLEUM OFFICER	R. GROAT, M.A.P.H.I.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	A. E. HOLDSWORTH, M.A.P.H.I. (resigned January 1961)
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	G. J. L. HORNE,M.A.P.H.I.,A.I.P.H.E. (commenced 12.6.61)

Council Offices,
Rectory Road,
Lowestoft,
Suffolk.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29742870

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith, the statutory Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1961.

The birthrate shows a rise compared with last year, but it is still below the national average. The death rate is below that of the previous year and is well below the national figure. In other words, the area is a healthy one; particularly for old people. The estimated mid-year population is 16,100, which is a rise on last year's figure of 15,790. The causes of death are much the same as in previous years and follow the national trend, with vascular and coronary diseases heading the list. Malignant disease takes second place as the cause of death. Measles was the only infectious disease of any importance to appear in the district, it being a heavy year for this infection. There were no cases of food poisoning during the year. The amount of work carried out in the Home Help service is substantially the same as in previous years. It is satisfactory to see that the usual yearly increase in the service has been checked.

The services of a local vetinary practitioner, Mr. G. Podd, were needed between the time Mr. Holdsworth left and Mr. Horne joined the staff, to ensure the continuation of 100% meat inspection. During the year, four slaughterhouses were in operation, but it is anticipated that two of these will close. The quality of the meat inspected has been exceptionally good.

The sewerage scheme programme as outlined last year has continued satisfactorily. Barnby and Lound are now completed and the Blundeston and Corton scheme and joint sewage treatment works are now well on the way to completion.

Major housing development is taking place in some parishes, particularly in Bradwell - 245 new premises were completed during the year. Five years ago, the constructional rate of private development was only 100 houses per year.

Once again, Mr. Chairman, may I thank you and the members of the Health Committee for your interest and support during the year.

I am, your obedient servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE.

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

		Male	Female	Total
Live Births:	Legitimate	103	105	208
	Illegitimate	5	7	12
		108	112	220

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population:

Unadjusted:- 13.7
Adjusted:- 15.4

Comparative figure for England and Wales

17.4

		Male	Female	Total
Stillbirths:	Legitimate	1	4	5
	Illegitimate	1	-	1
		2	4	6

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population:

Unadjusted:- 10·9
Adjusted:- 9·8

Comparative figure for England and Wales

12·0

		Male	Female	Total
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	Legitimate	5	-	5
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		5	-	5
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	Legitimate	3	-	3
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		3	-	3
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age	Legitimate	3	-	3
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		3	-	3

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	44,653 acres
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1961)	16,100
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1961	5,665
Rateable value as at 31st December, 1961	£152,909

CAUSES OF DEATH

Tuberculosis, respiratory	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27
Diabetes	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	21
Coronary disease, angina	34
Hypertension with heart disease	9
Other heart diseases	18
Other circulatory diseases	7
Influenza	1
Pneumonia	6
Bronchitis	4
Other disease of the respiratory system	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2
Hyperlpasia of prostate	1
Congenital malformations	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17
Motor vehicle accidents	2
All other accidents	3
Suicide	4
	177

Motor Vehicle Accidents

A male, aged 70 years of Kessingland.

Cause: Fracture of skull and damage to the brain due to his having been in collision with a motor car.

A male, aged 7 years of Hopton.

Cause: Cerebral contusion and concussion following a head injury.

Other Accidents

A female, aged 80 years of Hopton.

Cause: Acute pulmonary embolism following an operation for fracture of neck of right femur after a fall at home.

A female, aged 39 years of Reydon.

Cause: Acute shock, pulmonary embolism, right femoral vein thrombosis associated with renal failure, and severe burns due to her clothing catching fire.

A male, 59 years of Reydon.

Cause: Asphyxia by drowning.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

The following shows the number of attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres throughout the year:

Welfare Centres	First Attendances	Subsequent Attendances	Total Attendances
Carlton Colville			
0 - 1 year	19	73	92
1 - 5 years	6	61	67
Kessingland			
0 - 1 year	26	80	106
1 - 5 years	17	53	70
Wrentham			
0 - 1 year	34	159	193
1 - 5 years	30	191	221
Corton			
0 - 1 year	20	53	73
1 - 5 years	10	77	87
Blundeston			
0 - 1 year	28	64	92
1 - 5 years	17	111	128
Belton			
0 - 1 year	18	46	64
1 - 5 years	12	84	96
Bradwell			
0 - 1 year	73	414	487
1 - 5 years	18	91	109
Hopton			
0 - 1 year	13	138	151
1 - 5 years	19	127	146
Lound			
0 - 1 year	5	33	38
1 - 5 years	16	119	135
Somerleyton			
0 - 1 year	8	46	54
1 - 5 years	17	107	124
Reydon			
0 - 1 year	29	163	192
1 - 5 years	21	264	285

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

In the Lothingland district in 1961, 209 primary immunisations and 70 booster injections were carried out by the child welfare clinics and general practitioners. The age groups of the children immunised are as follows:-

	Under 1 year	1-4	5-14	Total
Primary	79	112	18	209
Booster	-	11	59	70

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the number of age groups of persons vaccinated and re-vaccinated during the year:-

Age at the date of vaccination

	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total 1961	Total 1960	Total 1959
Primary vaccination	103	8	6	3	6	126	109	92
Re-vaccination	-	-	1	5	7	13	12	16
Total	103	8	7	8	13	139	121	108

MIDWIFERY AND GENERAL NURSING

The nursing staff in Lothingland remains the same. During periods of staff sickness and annual leave each nurse has been willing to undertake work on a colleague's area in addition to her own. Below is a summary of work carried out by the nurses.

MIDWIFERY

Deliveries	Midwifery Visits	Ante-natal Visits
110	2,665	1,371

Of the 110 mothers attended, only one had not booked a doctor for the confinement. A doctor was present at the delivery of 66 of the 109. Including the one not having booked a doctor, the nurses attended 44 deliveries without a doctor being present, the same number as last year.

Gas and Air analgesia was administered to 97 mothers and 62 were given Pethidine.

Many of the 2,665 midwifery visits were made to 62 mothers whose babies were born in hospital but who were discharged home before the 10th day after delivery, in many instances, on the 3rd or 4th day.

GENERAL NURSING

New Patients Attended	Visits Paid
187	5,336

98, or just over half the number of new patients attended were aged 65 years and over. Last year the figure was slightly less than half the total number. 2,707 visits were paid to patients of this age group, again just over half the total number. Last year, well below half the visits were to patients aged 65 years and over.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the incidence of infectious diseases throughout the year in the various parishes:

PARISH	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Infective Hepatitis	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Erysinelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Tuberculosis
Barnby	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belton	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blundeston	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bradwell	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Burgh Castle	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
C. Colville	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Corton	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fritton	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frostenden	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gisleham	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Henham	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Henstead	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herringfleet	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hopton	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hulver	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kessingland	32	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mutford	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Oulton	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reydon	9	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rushmere	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somerleyton	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Olaves	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uggeshall	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wangford	13	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wrentham	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1961	141	7	-	9	-	1	-	-	-	4
1960	63	2	1	10	1	4	-	-	-	8
1959	21	6	9	9	-	-	2	1	1	5

TUBERCULOSIS

	Males Pul-monary	Males Non-Pul.	Females Pul-monary	Females Non-Pul.	Total
Number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1960	45	9	26	9	89
Number of cases added during the year	5	-	3	1	9
Number of cases removed during the year	3	-	-	-	3
Number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1961	47	9	29	10	95

Cases Added to the Register

New notifications	-	4
Inward transfers	-	5
		9

Cases Removed from the Register

Recovered	-	1
Died	-	2
Removed to other areas	-	-
		3

HOME HELP SERVICE

A total of 69 cases were assisted during the year. They were classified as follows:-

	Cases	Hours	Cases Commenced before 1961
Maternity	5	181½	-
Sick & Old Persons	64	15,798	35
Total	69	15,979½	35

Of the 64 cases in the sick and old category 35 commenced before 1961 and can therefore be regarded as long term cases.

REPORT of the PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the YEAR 1961

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this Report upon the work of the Department during the year 1961.

HOUSING

Inspections were made of 98 houses and the following is the result of recommendations made and action taken in respect of this property:

Number of houses demolished and unfit houses closed	5
Number of families re-housed	5
Number of houses rendered fit as a result of informal action	15
Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
Public Health Act 1936	18
Housing Act 1957	-
Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957	2

The following information has been provided by the Engineer & Surveyor:

Provision of New Housing Accommodation

Houses erected by private enterprise	245
Houses erected by the Local Authority	Nil

Improvements to houses

Number of dwellings in respect of which improvements were carried out with grants:	
Discretionary Grants	45
Standard Grants	31

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Number of licensed sites	55
Total number of caravans	2227
Number of caravans licensed and used as permanent dwellings	36
Number of visits to caravan and camping sites	188

FOOD PREMISES

Total number of premises	138
Total number of visits to food premises	158

Registered Premises

Ice Cream Manufacturers	1
Ice Cream Retailers	61
Sausage and preserved food manufacturers	9

WATER SUPPLIES

Samples of water from domestic supplies were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Norwich, and the reports were as follows:

	Mains Supply	Private Wells
Satisfactory	10	4
Unsatisfactory	-	5

Twelve samples were taken from swimming pools at Holiday Camps and of these, nine were satisfactory.

Twenty-one samples of well water for examination for nitrate content were taken and Dr. E.C. Wood, Public Analyst, reported on the suitability of these waters for infant feeding.

RODENT CONTROL

The following is a record of inspections made for infestations and of treatments carried out:

	Dwelling-houses	Farms	Other Premises
Inspections	883	147	134
Treatments	615	114	60

This service was carried out by the operators in a very satisfactory manner.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SEWAGE WORKS

The operation and maintenance of the public sewers and sewage works was transferred to the Health Department in April 1961.

Refuse collection

The following vehicles were used:

		Capacity	Mileage	Fuel used
UBJ 590	1956	18 cub. yd.	11,499	1,024 galls.
YBJ 296	1958	25 cub. yd.	11,197	994 galls.
LNK 532		12 cub. yd.	Hired from Shelvoke & Drewry for summer holiday season.	

All refuse was disposed of by arrangement on the tips of Lowestoft and Southwold Borough Councils. There was a continued increase in the volume of refuse collected due in part to the new dwelling-houses and caravan sites in the district. The income from salvage collected amounted to £283. 11s. 5d.

Cesspool emptying

The following vehicles were used:

		Capacity	Mileage	Fuel Used
LBJ 118	1950	1,000 galls.	5,901	509 galls.
OBJ 322	1953	1,000 galls.	12,674	1,058 galls.
335 CRT	1959	1,100 galls.	14,917	1,236 galls.

There was no change in this work during the year.

The cost of providing the refuse collection and cesspool emptying services was £12,154. 13s. 2d. compared with £10,859. 0s. 7d. in the previous year.

FACTORIES ACT 1937

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	9	2
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	32	57

No defects were found.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The following carcases and offals were inspected:

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
No. of animals killed	1,071	41	19	371	4,483
Diseases other than T.B. and Cystercosis					
No. of whole carcases condemned	-	2	3	1	4
No. of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	177	8	3	10	344
T.B. only					
No. of whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
No. of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	118
Cystercosis					
No. of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
No. of carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-

The total weight of meat and offal condemned amounted to 2 tons 16cwts. 104lbs. This diseased and unsound material was collected by the Suffolk Fat and Bone Company and processed on arrival at the factory at Oulton Broad.

Number of slaughterhouses	4
Number of licensed slaughtermen	20
Number of knacker yards	1

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RALPH GROAT.

Public Health Inspector.